

Senate HELP Committee Accomplishments
109th Congress
**Securing a Lifetime of Opportunity at School,
at Work, and at Home**

- *37 bills reported out of committee*
 - *23 bills passed by the Senate*
- *352 nominations reported favorably*
- *15 laws signed by President Bush:*

1. **Pension Protection Act** - the biggest revision to pension laws in 30 years; strengthens funding rules to secure the retirements of millions of Americans.
2. **MINER Act** - first revision to mine safety laws in 28 years; promotes the use of new technologies to improve mine safety and save lives.
3. **Deficit Reduction Act** – HELP provisions yield \$15.5 billion in savings **after** helping college students by reauthorizing many components of HEA.
4. **Perkins Act** – modernizes, improves accountability for career and technical education programs.
5. **Patient Safety Bill** – allows physicians to compare and analyze medical errors without the fear of being sued and without compromising patient safety.
6. **Patient Navigator Act** - helps poor and older individuals navigate complex health systems with assistance from trained professionals.
7. **Medical Device Bill** - streamlines FDA review of medical devices and increases safety.
8. **Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act** - establishes a National Cord Blood Stem Cell Bank Network to enable patient match, use and research.
9. **Prescription Electronic Reporting Act** – establishes or improves upon state controlled substance monitoring programs.
10. **State High Risk Pool Funding Extension Act** – supports programs to maintain health insurance pools for high risk individuals.
11. **Center for Disease Control** - extends the maximum duration of voluntary service to the National Foundation for the CDC.
12. **Cosmetic Contact Lens** - allows the FDA to regulate contacts as medical devices to save eyesight.
13. **Youthbuild Transfer Act** – assists young adults not enrolled in school gain needed education, skills and knowledge while serving their communities.
14. **Higher Education Extension** – extends provisions of HEA through June 20.
15. **Older Americans Act** – reauthorizes and improves social services programs for seniors.

**We're not finished! Congress needs to act
now on these HELP-approved bills:**

- **Small Business Health Plans (SBHP)** – reduces health insurance costs and expands coverage by allowing small businesses and trade associations to band together across the nation and offer SBHPs to provide affordable group health coverage.
- **Ryan White Care Act Reauthorization** – ensures that funding follows the patients of HIV/AIDS to populations where the disease is spreading most rapidly.
- **Biodefense and BARDA** – establishes bioterrorism, pandemic, and all-hazards protection and preparedness.
- **Wired for Health Care Quality Act** – enhances the adoption of a nationwide interoperable health information technology system to avoid duplicative tests, reduce medical errors, and cut costs.
- **Workforce Investment Act** – trains 900,000 workers to get the skills to secure better paying jobs, improve American economic competitiveness.
- **Higher Education Act** – reduces costs, improves access, and increases accountability.
- **Head Start** – reauthorizes and improves pre-school education programs to ensure more accountability and transparency.

**Senate Committee on Health, Education,
Labor Pensions**

Senator Michael B. Enzi, R-WY, Chairman